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results into the compute program database. Once the results a saved, the product ID ta will be printed at the location L of t blood component and the lood component will be ready to issue the patient.

Page 18, lines 2-4:

Button captions of the patient bar P are driven by t current state of patie information which is drawn from t database.

In the Claims:

A clean versi n of the replacement claims follows and a marked-up version of th replacement claims is attached to th s amendment:

1. A metho of managing and tracking blood produc s between a plurality of remote patient facilities and a centr l blood testing facility herein a blood specimen is obtained fr m each patient who requir s a blood reserve for possible transfusi n and said specimen is t ansferred to said central blood testi g facility comprising the steps of:

providin an inventory of blood products at sa d central blood testing f cility;

selectir one of said blood products which has an available segment at sa d central blood testing facility;

detachir said segment from said blood product at

said central bl od testing facility;

ransferring one of said blood products from said central blood esting facility to one of said remo e patient facilities at w ich said patient is located;

ssigning said segment to said patient s ecimen for crossmatching a said central blood testing facility;

emote serological crossmatching each s id patient specimen and s id segment of said blood product at s id central blood testing facility to determine their compatibili with one another;

etermining all of the blood attributes f said one of said blood p oducts and said patient specimen;

etermining the compatibility of said c e of said blood products and patient specimen selected by compa ing all of said blood att butes thereof;

anaging said blood products by prepari a patient identification database of each of said blood product , segments and patient sp cimens and storing information in said atabase at each of said c ntral blood testing and remote patient facilities which correlate each of said blood products, segments nd patient specimens, the location and movement; and

racking the location and movement of e ch of said blood products segments and patient specimens in sa d database between said emote patient facilities and said ce tral blood testing facil y by displaying the information stor d in said database relat ng to their location and movement.

3. he method according to claim 1 including the step of

assigning said blood products and said patient specimens to a location within each of said remote patient facilities and said central blood testing facility and tracking any movement of said blood products and said patient specimens to other locations.

4. The method according to claim 1 including the step of displaying said patient identification information on a computer at each of said remote patient facilities and central blood testing facility.

5. The method according to claim 4 including the step of displaying said information on a patient bar on each said computer which is accessible to all users regardless of their location at each of said facilities.

6. The method according to claim 1 further characterized by crossmatching a segment of each said blood product and each said patient specimen at said central blood testing facility assigning each said segment and each said patient specimen to a location in said central blood testing and remote patient facility, and recording said location in said database.

7. The method according to claim 2 including the step of selectively displaying the absence or presence of each item of information stored including special needs, patient comments, prior transfusion reaction history, autologous blood availability, directed blood components, blood type, presence of unexpected antibodies, patient specimen expiration date and reserved blood

components.

8. The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of cross-matching includes the step of producing a product identification tag and attaching to each said blood component.

9. The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of determining all of the blood attributes is characterized by comparing the antigens and antibodies in each of said blood products and said patient specimens to determine whether each is present in each segment of said blood product and said patient specimen tested and storing said information in said database.

10. A method for managing and tracking blood products, patient specimens and segments between a plurality of hospitals and a central blood testing facility wherein computer database is provided for recording information and a screen is provided for displaying said information, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a blood specimen from each patient requiring a blood product to be reserved for possible transfusion;

assigning a segment of a blood product for crossmatching;

remote serological crossmatching each said segment and said patient specimen at said facility to determine their compatibility with one another;

managing each said segment and said patient specimen crossmatched by identifying each said segment, said component and said patient specimen with patient identification information and

recording said patient identification information on said database; and

tracking the location and movement of each of said segments, said products and said patient specimens between said hospitals and said facility.

11. A method according to claim 10 further characterized by determining all attributes of each of said blood products and said patient specimens prior to said crossmatching.

12. A method according to claim 10 including the step of testing the compatibility of said attributes prior to said crossmatching.

13. A method according to claim 12 characterized by periodically updating said attributes and recording said information in said database.

14. A method according to claim 10 including the step of tracking the location of each said segment and said patient specimen by recording their movement between said test facility and patient location.

15. A method according to claim 10 including the step of recording blood attributes of each said patient specimen in said database.

16. A method according to claim 10 including the step of

recording prior transfusion reaction history of each said patient in said database.

17. A method according to claim 10 including the step of recording autologous blood availability in said database.

18. A method according to claim 10 including the step of recording blood type of each said blood product and said patient specimen.

19. A method according to claim 10 including the step of recording the specimen expiration date of each said segment and said patient specimen.

20. A system for managing blood products and tracking their movement between a central blood test facility and a plurality of hospitals wherein a computer is provided for processing data including a screen for displaying information, said system comprising:

managing means having first means including a database for entering information pertaining to each patient requiring a blood reserve, second means for entering blood type information for a blood specimen from each said patient, third means for recording a blood type for a blood product assigned to each said patient, fourth means for recording on said database results of comparing blood attributes of each said patient specimen and said blood product;

fifth means for recording on said database results

of serological crossmatching of each said patient specimen and said blood product; and

tracking means for tracking the location and movement of each of said blood products and patient specimens between said blood test facility and said hospitals by displaying on said screen the information stored in said database relating to their location and movement.

29. In a blood management system for managing information relating to blood products between a central blood test facility and one or more remote patient facilities wherein a computer is provided for processing data, a database is provided for recording said information and a screen is provided for displaying said information recorded, the improvement comprising:

managing means including means for recording information identifying each patient requiring a blood reserve on said database, means for obtaining and recording a blood specimen from each said patient, means for assigning a segment of a blood product for crossmatching, means for remote serological crossmatching each said segment and said patient specimen at said blood test facility to determine their compatibility with one another, means for identifying each said segment and said patient specimen, and means for assigning said segment, said blood product and said patient specimen to a location in one of said blood test facility and said remote patient facilities.

Cancel claim 27.

Kindly add the following claim:

31. In a blood management system according to claim 29 including means for displaying information relating to the location of each of said segments and said patient specimens.